

Correct
~~Incorrect~~

1. executes a confirmation response to the notarization authority. The notarization authority registers the documents in the witness server's receipts detail table and notifies the buying and selling companies that the notarization authority authenticated the documents. This structure enables the making of accurate detailed payment statements when, for example, a detailed payment statement is made or a funds transfer is executed based on confirmed data. Furthermore, checking the detailed payment statement is made simpler through reference to the witness system server.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please **AMEND** claims 1, 7, 15, 17, 25-30 and 34 as follows:

Sub B1

1. (ONCE AMENDED) A witness system, comprising:
- confirmation document making means for making confirmation documents for each of one or more buyer records based on a seller record, or records, sent from a seller;
 - sending means for sending to the witness documents prepared according to said confirmation document making means, and for sending said documents from said witness to said seller;
 - confirmation means for confirming by said seller that the content of said seller record, or records, is in agreement with the content of said documents sent according to said sending means;
 - a witness confirming that said documents are accurate, when said agreement is confirmed according to said confirmation means; and
 - memory means for storing in memory documents confirmed by said witness.

Sub B2

7. (ONCE AMENDED) An account settlement system, comprising:
- notarization document making means for making notarization documents for each of one or more buyer records, based on seller records sent from a buyer;
 - sending means for sending to a notarization authority documents made according to said notarization document making means, and for sending said documents from said notarization authority to a seller;

confirmation means for confirming by said seller whether the contents of said seller records are in agreement with the contents of records sent according to said sending means;

a witness having a notarization authority and certifying that said documents are accurate, when said substantive agreement is confirmed according to said confirmation means;

memory means for storing in memory documents notarized by said witness;

detailed payment statement making means for making, with reference to said notarization documents stored in memory according to said memory means, a detailed payment statement, upon which payment to said seller by said buyer is to be based;

funds transfer request means for requesting a transfer of funds based on a detailed payment statement made according to said detailed payment statement making means; and

notification means for notifying said witness of a transfer of funds, when funds are transferred to said seller based on a funds transfer request according to said funds transfer request means.

Sub B3 15. (ONCE AMENDED) An account settlement system utilizing a witness system, comprising:

notarization document making means for making notarization documents for each of one or more seller records based on seller records sent from a seller;

sending means for sending to a notarization authority documents made according to said notarization document making means, and for sending said documents from said notarization authority to a buyer;

confirmation means for confirming by said buyer whether the contents of said buyer record are in agreement with the contents of said documents sent according to said sending means;

a witness certifying that said documents are accurate, when said substantive agreement is confirmed according to said confirmation means;

memory means for storing in memory documents notarized by said witness;

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detailed payment statement making means for making, by said buyer with reference to said documents stored in memory according to said memory means, a detailed payment statement upon which payment by the buyer to the seller is based; and

request means for requesting a financial institution to issue a check to said buyer, based on a detailed payment statement made according to said detailed payment statement making means.

Sub B4
17. (ONCE AMENDED) An account settlement system utilizing a witness system, comprising:

notarization document making means for making notarization documents for each of one or more seller records, based on seller records sent from a seller;

sending means for sending to a notarization authority documents made according to said notarization document making means, and for sending said documents from said notarization authority to the seller;

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confirmation means for confirming by the seller whether the contents of said seller record are in agreement with the contents of said documents sent according to said sending means;

a witness certifying that said documents are correct, when substantive agreement between said documents and seller record is confirmed according to said confirmation means;

memory means for storing in memory documents notarized by said witness;

detailed payment statement making means for making, with reference to said documents stored in memory according to said memory means, a detailed payment statement upon which is based payment by said buyer to said seller; and

request means for requesting a financial institution to issue a note to said buyer.

Sub B5
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25. (ONCE AMENDED) A method for document confirmation by a witness system, comprising:

making confirmatory documents for each of one or more seller records, based on a seller record sent from a seller;

sending to a witness documents made according to said confirmatory document, and for sending said documents from said witness to said seller;

confirming by said seller whether the contents of said seller record are in agreement with the contents of said documents sent according to said sending to a witness;

confirming by the witness, when confirming substantive agreement according to said confirming by said seller, that said documents are accurate and notifies said buyer and said seller of said confirmation; and

storing said confirmed documents in memory.

26. (ONCE AMENDED) An account settlement method utilizing a witness system, comprising:

making notarization documents for each of one or more seller records, based on a seller record sent from a seller;

sending to a notarization authority documents made according to said making notarization documents;

confirming by said seller whether the contents of said seller record are in agreement with the contents of said documents sent according to said sending to a notarization authority;

notarizing by a witness that said documents are accurate and notifying a buyer and said seller of said notarization, when said substantive agreement is confirmed according to said confirming by said seller;

storing in memory said notarized documents;

making, with reference to said stored notarization documents, a detailed payment statement upon which is based payment by said buyer to said seller; and

requesting the transfer of funds to said seller, based on the detailed payment statement.

27. (ONCE AMENDED) A computer-readable memory medium containing a program causing a computer to execute document confirmation processes performed by a witness system, and comprising a process of:

making, for each of one or more seller records a confirmatory document, based on a seller record sent from a seller;

sending, to a witness, documents made according to said making a confirmatory document, and sending said documents to a buyer and said seller;

confirming by said seller whether the contents of said seller record are in agreement with the contents of said documents sent according to said sending to a witness;

confirming by the witness that said documents are accurate and notifying said buyer and said seller of said confirmation, when said substantive agreement is confirmed according to said confirming by said seller; and

storing in a memory said confirmed documents.

28. (ONCE AMENDED) A computer-readable memory medium containing a program causing a computer to execute an account settlement process using a witness system, and comprising a process of:

making, for each of one or more seller records, a notarization document, based on a seller record sent from a seller;

sending to a notarization authority documents made according to said making a notarization document, and sending said documents from said notarization authority to said seller;

confirming by said seller whether the contents of said seller record and the contents of said documents sent according to said sending to a notarization authority are in agreement;

notarizing by a witness that said documents are accurate and notifying a buyer and said seller of said notification, when said substantive agreement is confirmed according to said confirming by said seller;

storing in a memory said notarized documents;

making, with reference to said stored notarization documents, a detailed payment statement upon which is based payment by said buyer to said seller; and

requesting that funds be transferred to said seller, based on the detailed payment statement.

29. (ONCE AMENDED) A witness system, comprising:

first computing means for making document data;

second computing means for confirming the contents of said document data; and

third computing means for storing in memory said confirmed document data, or for performing notarization of said document data.

30. (ONCE AMENDED) A witness system according to claim 29, wherein said storing in a memory and substantive confirmation of document data are executed according to a screen display of said third computing means.

34. (ONCE AMENDED) An account settlement system, comprising:
 payment request means for making a detailed statement of a payment object and sending a payment request; and
 comparison means for comparing a detailed payment statement transmitted according to said payment request means with a seller-side sales record.

Please **ADD** new claim 35 as follows:

35. (NEW) A method of confirming document data, comprising:
 creating a payment document by a buyer based upon one or more vouchers sent to the buyer by a seller;
 sending the payment document to a witness;
 sending the payment document from the witness to the seller;
 confirming contents of the payment document by the seller by comparing the contents of the payment document with the contents of the vouchers;
 certifying and registering the payment document by the witness when the witness receives confirmation of the contents of the payment document from the seller;
 and
 storing the payment document.

REMARKS

Claims 1-34 are pending in this application and have been rejected. Amendments to claims 1, 7, 15, 17, 25-30 and 34 are presented above. In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 7, 15, 17, 25-30 and 34 have been amended without narrowing the claims within the meaning of Festo Corp. v. Shoketsu Kinzoku Kogyo Kabushiki Co., 56 USPQ2d 1865 (Fed. Cir. 2000). Claim 35 is newly added in this